

WASHINGTON, DC – Last night, the House Armed Services Committee passed an amendment to the Defense Authorization bill clarifying military policy in relation to the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA).

In a statement today, Akin said:

“This amendment leaves no doubt as to the position of our United States Armed Forces regarding marriage, as recognized by federal law.

“Under federal law and this amendment, U.S. military bases may not be used to solemnize same-sex unions, nor may military chaplains perform these unions in the course of their official duties.”

The Akin amendment responded to guidance issued by the Navy in mid-April which allowed same-sex unions in states where they are legal. That plan was suspended on Wednesday.

Family Research Council President Tony Perkins, who drew attention to the Navy policy, commented:

"I applaud Rep. Todd Akin for his efforts to ensure that the military is not used to advance the liberal social agenda of the Obama administration. Rep. Akin is advancing an amendment that protects religious freedom while reinforcing federal law that defines marriage as the union of one man and one woman, for which he deserves our thanks."

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